AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

1   1.   (Previously Presented) A method of accounting for services provided over a

2   packet-based network, comprising:

3   determining a type of service used over the network;

4   monitoring usage of the service; and

5   collecting accounting information based on the type of service and usage of the service,

6   wherein collecting the accounting information includes compiling the accounting information

7   into an accounting unit,

8   wherein the accounting unit has a first entry to indicate a quality of service provided over

9   the packet-based network, and a second entry to indicate mobility management.

1   2.   (Previously Presented The method of claim 1, wherein the determining, monitoring, and

2   collecting are performed in a first entity, the method further comprising transmitting, from the

3   first entity, the accounting unit to at least another entity.

1   3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising assigning an identifier with the

2   collected accounting information that is common between the first entity and the at least one

3   other entity.

1   4.   (Cancelled)

1   5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising using an accounting

2   unit having a common format for convenient exchange between entities.

1   6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising using an accounting

2   unit including a traffic matrix segment.

1   7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the type of service

2   includes determining one of a plurality of service types, wherein collecting the accounting

3   information comprises collecting an additional entry assigned a value to indicate a type of

4   service.

1   8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein determining one of the plurality of service

2   types include determining one of real-time communications and at least another type of service.

1   9. – 15. (Cancelled)

1   16.   (Previously Presented) A method of accounting for services provided over a packet-

2   based network, comprising:

3   communicating a unit of accounting information carrying information regarding usage of

4   the packet-based network by a terminal, the unit of accounting information having a

5   predetermined format capable of being exchanged between a plurality of entities; and

6   assigning values to entries in the unit of accounting information based on usage, the unit

7   including a first entry indicating a quality of service provided over the packet-based network and

8   a second entry containing a network access identifier of the terminal to uniquely identify the

9   terminal.

1   17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein assigning values to entries

2   further includes assigning a value to an additional entry indicating a type of service.

1   18.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein assigning values to entries further includes

2   assigning values to additional entries including entries indicating usage of a radio interface,

3   indicating usage of a visited network, indicating usage of mobility management, and indicating

4   an amount of data transferred.

1   19.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein assigning values to entries further includes

2   assigning a value to an additional entry indicating erroneous termination of communications.

1   20.   (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 19,~~ A method of accounting for services

2   provided over a packet-based network, comprising:

3   communicating a unit of accounting information carrying information regarding usage of

4   the packet-based network by a terminal, the unit of accounting information having a

5   predetermined format capable of being exchanged between a plurality of entities; and

6   assigning values to entries in the unit of accounting information based on usage, the unit

7   including a first entry indicating a quality of service provided over the packet-based network and

8   a second entry containing a network access identifier of the terminal to uniquely identify the

9   terminal,

10   wherein assigning values to entries further includes assigning a value to an additional

11   entry indicating a type of service,

12   wherein assigning values to entries further includes assigning values to additional entries

13   including entries indicating usage of a radio interface, indicating usage of a visited network,

14   indicating usage of mobility management, and indicating an amount of data transferred.,

15   wherein assigning values to entries further includes assigning a value to an additional

16   entry indicating erroneous termination of communications,

17   wherein assigning values to entries further includes assigning a value to an additional

18   entry indicating an amount of discarded data.

1   21.   (Previously Presented) A system capable of being coupled to a packet-based network,

2   comprising:

3   a controller to collect usage information based on a service used by a node on the packet-

4   based network; and

5   a storage device containing an accounting unit in which the usage information is

6   collected, the accounting unit including a plurality of entries to identify usage elements from

7   which accounting may be derived, the entries comprising a first entry to indicate a quality of

8   service used by the node and a second entry to indicate usage of mobility management.

1   22.   (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the entries of the accounting unit include an

2   entry identifying a type of service used.

1   23.   (Cancelled)

1   24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the entries of the accounting

2   unit further comprise entries indicating elements used by a mobile node, including mobility

3   management, usage of a radio interface, and usage of a visited network.

1   25.   (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the accounting unit includes a traffic matrix

2   segment.

1   26.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the accounting unit is according

2   to a predetermined format, the controller to further communicate the accounting unit to another

3   entity.

1   27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, further comprising:

2   an accounting processor adapted to receive accounting units from at least one other

3   entity.

1   28.   (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the accounting processor is adapted to

2   generate billing to a subscriber based on one or more of the accounting units.

1 29.   (Previously Presented) An article including one or more machine-readable storage media

2 containing instructions for accounting for services used on a packet-based data network, the

3 instructions when executed causing a system to:

4   determine usage elements associated with each service, the usage elements including a

5 service type, amount of data communicated, and mobility management; and

6   collect accounting units each including entries identifying the usage elements.

1 30.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the one or more storage media

2 contain instructions that when executed cause the system to further communicate the accounting

3 units to another entity.

1 31.   (Previously Presented) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising

2 one or more code segments containing instructions for accounting for services used on a packet-

3 based data network, the instructions when executed causing a system to:

4   receive accounting units from at least another entity, each accounting unit containing a

5 first entry identifying a quality of service, a second entry identifying a terminal the accounting

6 unit is associated with, and a third entry indicating usage of mobility management;

7   determine, from each accounting unit, usage of a service on the packet-based network;

8 and

9   charge at least a subscriber for the usage of the service.

1 32.   (Previously Presented) A storage device for storing data for access by one or more

2 software routines being executed on a system, comprising:

3   a data structure stored in the storage device and including a plurality of entries, the entries

4 including a first field indicating a quality of service provided over a packet-based network, a

5 second field indicating if the service is chargeable, and a third field including an identifier

6 identifying a node using the service.

1   33.   (Original) The storage device of claim 32, wherein the data structure further includes a
2   field indicating if mobility management is provided for the node, a field indicating usage of a
3   radio interface by the node, and a field indicating usage of a visited network by the node.

1   34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein assigning a value to the
2   additional entry comprises assigning one of plural values corresponding to plural types of
3   service.

1   35.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the plural types of service
2   comprise real-time communications and at least another type of service.

1   36.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein communicating the unit of
2   accounting information comprises communicating a traffic matrix segment having a header and
3   plural rows, each row containing accounting information associated with a session having a
4   given time duration.

1   37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein assigning values to entries
2   further includes assigning values to additional entries containing source and destination network
3   addresses.

1   38.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising monitoring usage of
2   services on the packet-based network with an accounting meter, wherein assigning values to the
3   entries is performed by the accounting meter.

1   39.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the usage elements further
2   comprise quality of service, usage of air interface, and a network access identifier.